

In the Claims:

1-21 (canceled)

22. (currently amended) A biaxial elastic stretch, breathable laminate, consisting essentially of:

a water vapor-permeable elastic film comprising a polymer selected from a group consisting of polyurethanes, polyether amides, polyester elastomers and combinations thereof; and

a spunbond nonwoven web, having machine direction stretch and cross direction stretch, bonded to the film, wherein the spunbond nonwoven web is creped without the use of intermediate fixing steps to achieve the machine direction stretch and bonded to the elastic film whereby the film has a water vapor transmission rate of at least about 500 grams/m²-24 hours.

23.-25. (canceled)

26. (original) The laminate of Claim 22, wherein the film and web are thermally bonded together.

27. (original) The laminate of Claim 22, wherein the film and web are adhesively bonded together.

28. (original) The laminate of Claim 22, wherein the film and web are bonded together via an extrusion coating process.

29. (original) The laminate of Claim 22, wherein stretchability of the laminate in a machine direction is at least 50%.

30. (original) The laminate of Claim 22, wherein stretchability of the laminate in a machine direction is in a range of 70% to 200%.

31. (original) The laminate of Claim 22, wherein stretchability of the laminate in a machine direction is in a range of 100% to 150%.

32. (original) The laminate of Claim 22, wherein stretchability of the laminate in a cross direction is at least 50%.

33. (original) The laminate of Claim 22, wherein stretchability of the laminate in a cross direction is in a range of 70% to 200%.

34. (original) The laminate of Claim 22, wherein stretchability of the laminate in a cross direction is in a range of 100% to 150%.

35. (original) The laminate of Claim 22, wherein stretchability of the laminate in a machine direction is roughly equal to stretchability of the laminate in a cross direction.

36. (original) An absorbent article outer cover comprising the laminate of Claim 22.

37. (currently amended) A biaxial elastic stretch, breathable laminate fluid barrier, consisting essentially of:

a breathable elastic film; and

a necked nonwoven facing material that is creped in the machine direction without the use of intermediate fixing steps to allow for machine direction stretch and subsequently bonded to the film whereby the film has a water vapor transmission rate of at least about 500 grams/m²-24 hours.

38. (canceled)

39. (currently amended) A biaxial elastic stretch, breathable laminate fluid barrier, comprising:

a breathable elastic film; and

a necked nonwoven facing material that is creped in the machine direction without the use of intermediate fixing steps to allow for machine direction stretch and subsequently bonded to the film; and

wherein the film is pre-stretched when bonded to the facing material and whereby the film has a water vapor transmission rate of at least about 500 grams/m²-24 hours.

40. (new) The laminate of Claim 37, wherein the film comprises a thermoplastic polyurethane.

41. (new) The laminate of Claim 37, wherein the film comprises a polyether amide.

42. (new) The laminate of Claim 37, wherein the film comprises a polyester elastomer.

43. (new) The laminate of Claim 37, wherein the film comprises a monolithic film including a breathable polymer.

44. (new) The laminate of Claim 37, wherein the film comprises a breathable microporous film.

45. (new) The laminate of Claim 37, wherein the film has a water vapor transmission rate in a range of about 750 to about 50,000 grams/m²-24 hours.

46. (new) The laminate of Claim 37, wherein the film has a water vapor transmission rate in a range of about 37,000 to about 40,000 grams/m²-24 hours.

47. (new) The laminate of Claim 37, wherein the film has a basis weight in a range of 5 to 20 grams per square meter.

48. (new) The laminate of Claim 37, wherein the facing material is stretchable in a cross direction.

49. (new) The laminate of Claim 37, wherein the facing material is stretchable in a cross direction and in a machine direction.

50. (new) The laminate of Claim 37, wherein the facing material is elastomeric in a machine direction and in a cross direction.

51. (new) The laminate of Claim 37, wherein the facing material comprises a side by side bi-component spunbond fiber having a primary side and a secondary side.

52. (new) The laminate of Claim 51, wherein the primary side comprises polypropylene and the secondary side comprises a polymer that quenches in a differential manner than polypropylene.

53. (new) The laminate of Claim 52, wherein the polymer comprises a flexible polyolefin.

54. (new) The laminate of Claim 37, wherein the facing material comprises a spunbond nonwoven.

55. (new) The laminate of Claim 54, wherein the spunbond nonwoven comprises a thermoplastic elastomer.

56. (new) The laminate of Claim 37, wherein the facing material comprises a single site catalyzed elastomer.

57. (new) The laminate of Claim 37, wherein the facing material comprises a thermoplastic polyurethane.